

REMARKS

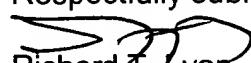
The foregoing amendments to the claims is intended to place the application in condition for allowance. Specifically, Claims 1-6, 8, 24-25 and 35-59 have been canceled, and Claim 7 has been amended. In view of these amendments and the following reasoning for allowance, the applicants hereby respectfully request further examination and reconsideration of the subject application.

Claims 1-6, 8, 24-25 and 35-59 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Yogeshwar et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,219,043, and Claims 7, 9-23 and 26-34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner stated that these latter claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

While no admission is made that the rejected claims are actually anticipated by the cited reference, the applicants have chosen to amend the claims as suggested in the Office Action to further the prosecution of the application and expedite its allowance. More particularly, rejected Claims 1-6, 8, 24-25 and 35-59 have been cancelled and Claim 7 has been rewritten to include all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 9-23 and 26-34 are all ultimately dependent from rewritten Claim 7, and so are allowable as originally filed.

In summary, it is believed that the remaining claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to Claims 7, 9-23 and 26-34 is respectfully requested. In addition, allowance of these claims at an early date is courteously solicited.

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Respectfully submitted

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